

Naval Air Station Lemoore Joint Land Use Study

339 W. "D" Street, Suite B, Lemoore, California 93245
(559) 582-3211 extension 2677 ❖ FAX (559) 924-5632
www.lemoorejlus.com

Partner Agencies: City of Lemoore, County of Fresno, County of Kings, NAS Lemoore, and Kings County Association of Governments

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact:

Chris Lehn, Regional Planner
Kings County Association of Governments
Phone: 559-582-3211 x2677
Email: Chris.Lehn@co.kings.ca.us

Upcoming Meetings for NAS Lemoore Planning Study Scheduled

Lemoore, California, November 16, 2010 – A round of meetings associated with creating a civilian directed community plan to guide future development near Naval Air Station (NAS) Lemoore will be held on November 30th and December 1st. The Technical Working Group will meet on November 30th from 2-4 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Kings County Government Center located at 1400 W. Lacey Blvd in Hanford. Later that evening from 5-7 p.m. an Open House will be held in the same location. The public is encouraged to attend and hear updates on the project. Attendees will have the opportunity to provide input on the identified “areas of concern”. On Wednesday, December 1st the NAS Lemoore JLUS Policy Committee will meet in the Kings County Board of Supervisor Chamber located at 1400 W. Lacey from 2-4 p.m. All three of these meetings are open to the public with additional information available on the website www.lemoorejlus.com.

The November 30th meeting will be the third meeting for the NAS Lemoore Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Technical Group and the December 1st meeting will be the second meeting for the NAS Lemoore JLUS Policy Committee. The Technical Group is comprised of representatives from Fresno County, Kings County, City of Lemoore, property owners, education departments, environmental groups, agricultural/water interests, state agencies, airports/airport land use commissions, and businesses assigned the responsibility of providing technical input into the Study. The Policy Committee includes elected officials from Kings County, Fresno County, and the City of Lemoore and an *ex-officio* (non-voting) member from NAS Lemoore. The Policy Committee has the ultimate role of accepting the Study’s background, analysis, and recommendations.

At the upcoming meetings, areas of concern will be discussed and agreed upon and potential strategies to address the various areas of concern will be discussed. Terri King, Executive Director of the Kings County Association of Governments, noted that these meetings are open to the public and each meeting like the previous meetings will include an opportunity for the public to comment and/or talk one on one with the planning consultants preparing the study. The

meetings are part of the JLUS process currently scheduled to conclude around April of next year with a report noting specific recommendations for the community to implement. “We are looking forward to continuing our community outreach to ensure areas of concern are addressed and to make sure the public has an opportunity to provide input”, Ms. King noted. She also said there will be 3-4 more public meetings for the public to attend and participate.

“The ultimate purpose of this plan is to have our community identify actions we can take to protect the health, safety and welfare of our citizens while discouraging incompatible development near NAS Lemoore”, says Ms. King. “This study is different from past studies performed by the Base in that it is a community-led effort focused on short and long-term land use strategies. We obviously have to include the Base in our efforts so all operational and mission activities of the Base are accounted for but the study is being led by our community. We know growth in the Valley will continue and by having compatible development is a win-win-win situation for property owners, the Base, and our community.”

Ms. King noted the overall goals of the study are to identify actions the City of Lemoore, Fresno County, and Kings County should pursue to ensure compatible development occurs and create an action plan to help guide future planning. “We know other communities have completed similar studies and now they are reaping the benefits. We are looking forward to continuing the community’s work on this study to get to that point.”

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